IN MASSACHUSETTS
413-586-4407
PO BOX 4690
SPRINGFIELD, MA 01101

THE SEDITION COMMITTEE

OHIO 7 ON TRIAL FOR SEDITIOUS CONSPIRACY

IN NEW YORK
212-969-0448
PO BOX 1418, CATHEDRAL STA
NEW YORK, NY 10025

DECEMBER 1988 SCHEDULE

DECEMBER 13
Northampton Unitarian Church
7 PM

FILM FEST & HOLIDAY GATHERING
Come enjoy an evening of film and refreshments
The Film "Attica" will be one of those shown

THE CHILDREN'S FUND
Make the holidays easier for our comrades and their families
Support the Ohio 7 and their children with donations sent to:
Atty: William M. Kunstler/Special Accounts, 13 Gay Street, NY, NY 10014

COURT DAYS THIS MONTH

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

WHERE: Federal Courthouse, Springfield, Mass.
WHEN: 9:30-1:00, 2:00-4:00
The Ohio 7 need your presence in the courtroom!
OPENING STATEMENTS: will be happening Jan. 10th.
Call us about upcoming actions at courthouse.
YOUR PARTICIPATION IS VITAL!

CALL 586-4407 to arrage a ride or someone to go with you.

(Show) Trial Update

The Ohio 7 trial is now in its 8th month of jury selection. It is anticipated that jury selection will be completed by the first two weeks of December. Given the length of time afforded to the selection of jurors one would think that the constitutional right to have a fair representation of the community on the jury would be protected. Such has not been the case in this trial. In the past month the judge has "qualified" as fit for jury service the following individuals:

***An internal revenue agent who had been told by government co-workers that this was a "terrorist trial."
***A woman whose brother is a state prison guard who has been involved in confrontations with prisoners.
***Several individuals who are closely related to police officers.
***A man who thinks that "Leftist" are Democrats.
***Several individuals who clearly manifested prejudice against communists and revolutionaries.
***An individual who suffers from "anxiety attacks", takes medication and whose doctor asked that she be excused from jury service.

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Security continues to be a paramount issue. The judge denied a defense motion to prohibit the U.S. marshals from carrying "stun guns" in the courtroom (a violation of Massachusetts state law). He also has refused to respond to defense requests that he prohibit the marshals in the courtroom from carrying firearms.

Every 30 days a new contingent of marshals is flown in from various parts of the country to begin a new 30-day tour of duty which compounds security problems.

Still at issue is whether this will be an "open and public trial." In addition to the intimidating atmosphere presented by the marshals and other police, much of the courtroom seating is off limits to the public. Entire sections are reserved for the security force or cordoned off.

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The judge has denied a defense motion for dismissal of all charges based on an intential pattern of government misconduct (filed in the wake of all charges being dismissed against Tom and Jaan).

Reversal: Several months back the judge and his staff undertook a search of the massive FBI files code named "BosLuc". This was initiated based on a determination that government prosecuters had failed to turn over materials to the defense as required by federal rules of evidence. However, a week after the judge discovered a taped interview the FBI had conducted with their informant- Felipe Noguera- secreted in these files, he discontinued his search stating that it was "unproductive".

No U.S. Political Prisoners??

Dhoruba al-Mujahid Bin Wahad, formerly Richard Dhoruba Moore, is a 44 year old Muslim and political prisoner who has been incarcerated since 1971, making him the longest held political prisoner outside of racist South Africa. He was born in the South Bronx now one of the most blighted ghettos in America. Mr. Bin Wahad is from a working class family. As a juvenile Dhoruba succumbed to the sub-culture of the gettho street which inevitably led to his imprisonment at 18. This early prison experience marked the beginning of Dhoruba's transformation from a social victim to a conscious political activitist. Confronted by the brutal realities of a racial prison system, Dhoruba became a believer in African nationalism and the right of self-defense against a racial attack.

Dhoruba Al-Mujahid bin Wahad

After his release from prison Dhoruba moved to New York's "East Village" and more or less marked time as an apprentice photo-letterer. The assasination of Rev. M.L. King,Jr. in 1968 would finally change all this. Dhoruba quit his job and joined the Black Panther Party for Self-Defense.

In 1968 the BPP became the primary target of the FBI Counter Intelligence Program (COINTELPRO) aimed at the black movement. In New York City, the "black desk" of the police department's intelligence unit assigned a number of undercover officers to work full time as BPP members. When Dhoruba joined the BPP he was targeted as a potenial leader.

Dhoruba quickly rose to the rank of Field Secetary in the BPP, becoming responsible for organizing BPP chapters throughout the state. By 1969, the FBI had placed him on their "Security Index"- a list of individuals subject to political incarceration in the event of a "national emergency".

In April of 1969 Dhoruba and 20 other N.Y. Panthers were thrown in prison on conspiracy charges. Their indictment and arrests were based entirely upon the testimony of 3 N.Y. undercover police officers. The case became nationally known as the N.Y. Panther 21 Conspiracy Case. By March of 1970 the Panthers had raised $100,000 bail for Dhoruba's release. The FBI stepped up its surveilllance of Dhoruba and by June of 1970 had added him to their "Agitator Index" and Black Nationalist photo album".

The multifaceted government campaign to divide the Panthers had become very elaborate by the fall of 1970. One FBI plan was to cause the murder of Dhoruba by his fellow Panthers in the midst of the Panther 21 trial and blame his murder on Huey Newton, the Panther leader, thereby divide the Panthers, influence the outcome of the trial, and alienate liberal support for the Panther's cause. However, Dhoruba foiled the government's planned murder when he suddenly disappeared along with co-defendent during the trial. On May 13, 1971 all defendents in the Panther 21 case, including Dhoruba, were acquitted of all charges. Dhoruba, however, was still a fugitive as a result of the COINTELPRO inspired violence in the BPP.

On May 19, 1971 two NYC police officers who had been guarding the home of Manhattan DA Frank Hogan were shot and injured. Two days later, two other policemen were shot and killed in Harlem. The Black Liberation Party (BLA), claimed responsibility for both attacks. Responding to a direct call from former Pres. nixon, the FBI instituted the "NEWKILL" investigation, whose goal was to round-up and jail former BPP members who had been forced underground by COINTELPRO.

Dhoruba became a prime "NEWKILL" target. When he was arrested on June 5, 1971 during an anti-drug raid by the black underground on a drug dealer hangout in the Bronx, he was singled out as a prime suspect in the BLA shootings. The prime witness against Dhoruba was a woman who was a diagnosed paranoid schizopheric. After placing an "annonymous" call to the police, she was held as material witness for two years while her testimony was fabricated. After three trials, Dhoruba was convicted of the May 19 incident and sentenced to life.

After congressional disclosures of COINTELPRO in 1975, Dhoruba filed suit against the FBI and the NYPD, charging that he had been framed for the May 19 assaylt. After ten years of litigation enough documentation has been obtained for Dhoruba to return to state court to seek to reopen his case. Oral arguments on his motion were heard in August, 1988 and a decision is expected soon.

For futher info: Joan Gibbs, c/o CCR 666 Broadway N.Y., N.Y. 10012
Robert Boyle, 294 Ataltic Ave., Brooklyn, N.Y. 11201
(718) 624-0800.

The Ohio 7
extend their Solidarity
and Positive Spirit to you this
Holiday Season for a New Year of hope and
good health and an end to hunger, homelessness
and exploitation of all People,
EVERYWHERE

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WRITE TO THE COMRADES:

*Barbara Curzi- Laaman# 18213-053
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*Ray Luc Levasseur# 10376-016
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*Pat Gros Levasseur
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Please add my name to your mailing list for information on the OHIO 7 trial & support activities.

To cover printing & mailing costs (our newsletter is free to prisoners) here is my donation of

☐ $5 ☐ $10 ☐ $15

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

_____

TELEPHONE _____

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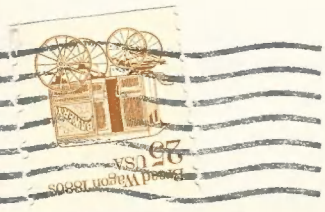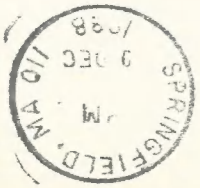
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